

Message Text

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72

ACTION EB-11

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: EXTAFF DESIGNATES CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

1. EXTAFF ON FEB. 4 ANNOUNCED DESIGNATION OF RALPH COLLINS, ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE, AS CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR IN THE DEPARTMENT. COLLINS, FIRST GOC AMBASSADOR TO PRC, ALSO LED CANDEL FOR NEGOTIATION 1972 AIR AGREEMENT WITH CHINA. ANNOUNCEMENT DESCRIBES HIM AS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCT OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED BY EXTAFF, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION. IN THIS ROLE COLLINS WILL REPORT TO INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AVIATION, CHAIRED BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, WHICH WILL COORDINATE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AIR MATTERS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND EXTAFF.

2. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN DISCONTENT IN CANADIAN AVIATION INDUSTRY WITH LACK OF PERMANENT HIGH-LEVEL AUTHORITY IN GOC FOR AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS. THERE WERE EXPECTATIONS THAT THIS FUNCTION WOULD BE TAKEN OVER FULLY BY MOT BUT APPARENTLY EXTAFF HAS SUCCEEDED IN MAINTAINING RESPONSIBILITY. COLLINS RANKS BUREAUCRATICALLY WITH DUPUY WHO

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CONDUCTED US-CANADA NEGOTIATIONS OVER PAST THREE YEARS. WE

DO NOT KNOW YET WHAT ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES IN EXTAF, IF ANY, MAY RESULT FROM THE COLLINS DESIGNATION. (AT PRESENT, TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY ARE GROUPED IN A SIX-MAN UNIT.) HOWEVER, MOT SOURCE HAS ADVISED TCO THAT AGENCY EXPECTS TO BE CENTER OF GRAVITY IN DEVELOPMENT OF NEGOTIATING POSITIONS AND WILL BE CREATING FIVE-MAN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION STAFF TO BACKSTOP COLLINS. MAJOR PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS EXPECTED COMMENCE SHORTLY AS GOC ENDEAVORS IMPLEMENT GLOBALLY NOVEMBER POLICY STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL AVIATION (SEE OTTAWA A-651, DEC. 8, 1973).

3. AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (ATAC) SOURCE HAS INDICATED DISQUIET OVER ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS ALTHOUGH IT WAS A PRIME MOVER IN ATTEMPTING GET RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS FIXED AT HIGH LEVEL. ATAC CONCERN NOT SO MUCH DIRECTED AT EXTAF ROLE BUT AT IDEA THAT DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATING POSITION WILL BE IN MOT RATHER THAN CTC WHICH IS CONSIDERED MORE RESPONSIVE TO CARRIER INTERESTS. ATAC ESPECIALLY DISTRUSTS WHAT SOURCE TERMED "FUZZY HEADED APPROACH" OF TRANSPORT POLICY PLANNERS, A REFERENCE TO OUTLOOK OF MOT ORGANIZATION DEVELOPED BY FORMER SENIOR MINISTRY EXECUTIVE HALTON (SEE STATE 199835, AND PREVIOUS). INTERNATIONAL AVIATION STAFF WILL BE PART OF THIS ORGANIZATION WHICH TAKES ANALYTICAL APPROACH TO NATIONAL NEEDS AND IS NOT SEEN BY TRANSPORT INDUSTRY AS ADEQUATELY SUPPORTIVE OF OPERATORS' REQUIREMENTS.
JOHNSON

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